

A group of four people are posing in front of a light-colored wall. The word 'EDUKADO' is painted in large, white, block letters across the middle of the wall. On the left, a woman in a purple t-shirt and black shorts is leaning against the wall with her mouth open in a playful expression. On the right, a man in a blue t-shirt and black shorts is also leaning against the wall, gesturing with his hands. In the center foreground, two women are sitting on the floor. Both are wearing blue t-shirts with the 'edukado' logo. The woman on the left is wearing black leggings and has her arms raised in a playful pose. The woman on the right is also wearing black leggings and has her arms raised. The background features a window with blue horizontal blinds on the left and right sides of the wall.

Senegal 2020 - 2021



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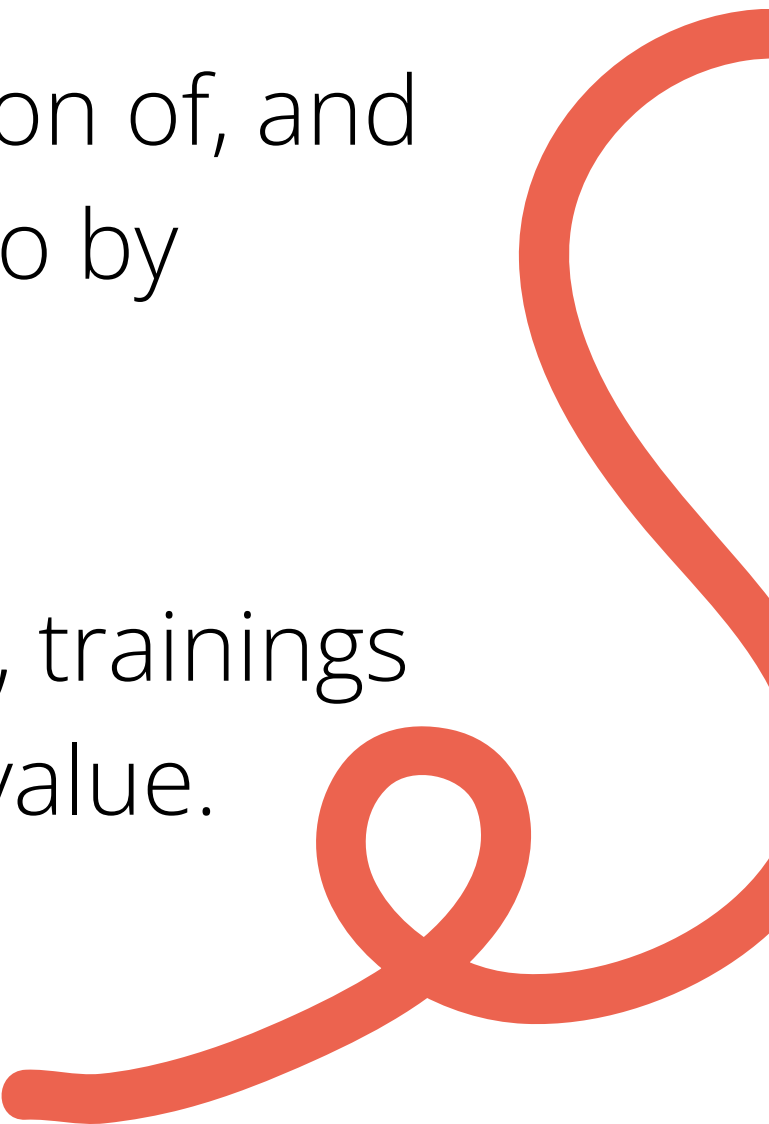
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What is Edukado

In a world, in which we are connected with and dependent on each other, Edukado strives for **solidarity, tolerance and justice**, such that everyone gets the opportunity to **participate in an equivalent manner** to the society.

We do this, not only by contributing to development of, facilitation of, and enhancing accessibility to **qualitative education**, but also by stimulation of **cultural and knowledge exchange**.

That's why we organise education related construction projects, trainings and sensibilisation activities, in which cooperation is a key value.



A strong framework

Edukado can rely on a wide and long-standing experience with solidarity projects abroad. This places Edukado in the ideal position to select and lead projects which contribute to a **sustainable improvement of living standards** in developing countries.

Although Edukado lets the students work as independently as possible, Edukado sees to a timely completion of the project and a correct use of the funds. Edukado guarantees that 100% of the donations make their way to the construction project directly (e.g. raw materials, labour). All other costs are fully covered by fundraising activities.

Edukado also performs a **thorough screening** of its partners in order to guarantee the project's **sustainability**. Each project is carefully selected based on aspects such as the scale of the project, the need for infrastructure, the reliability of the partner and political stability of the country. Furthermore, in order to qualify for an Edukado partnership, the Belgian partner organisation must have a **sustainable and long-standing relationship** with the local partner. After completion of the construction, the Belgian partner bears the responsibility of supporting the project in the long term.

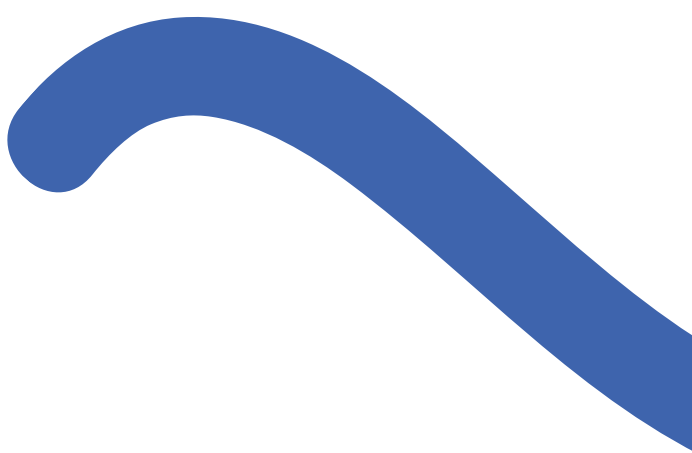
Senegal 2020

Halfway 2019 Edukado made a project call to find a suitable project and partner to cooperate with. Soon, the suggested project in Godaguene, Senegal, was chosen to be the next Edukado project. Organisation **DROP vzw** would be our partner for the following academic year, at least that's what we thought...

DROP stands for Duurzame Rurale OntwikkelingsProjecten, or 'durable/ sustainable, rural, development projects'. As their name reveals, this organization is active in rural areas, more specifically in Senegal. Ivo and Linda, the driving forces behind the organization, lost their heart in this west-African country, and found, during several past projects, a primary school in Godaguene, area of Sindine, bursting at its seams.

The school was built in 1984, and over time some infrastructure was added by the local inhabitants, insufficiently to compensate for the **growing number of students**. It is the only primary school in the area, and thus attracts **pupils of over 12 surrounding villages**. This led to **classes of up to 60 pupils** and a decrease in the quality of education.

The school director, teachers committee, and parental council are very willing to improve the school, but as the resources are lacking in this poor region, this is a difficult task.



Senegal 2020

DROP can count for their projects on their local DROP representative, **Oumar Sow**, a young man and changemaker, and not unimportant: a communicative partner that is involved and transparent about the realisations 'in the field'.

Knowing this would be the project, we started to convert the enthusiasm of DROP to the interested students at our information event, and several students applied! **A diverse, multi-talented, and motivated team of 11 students was born!**



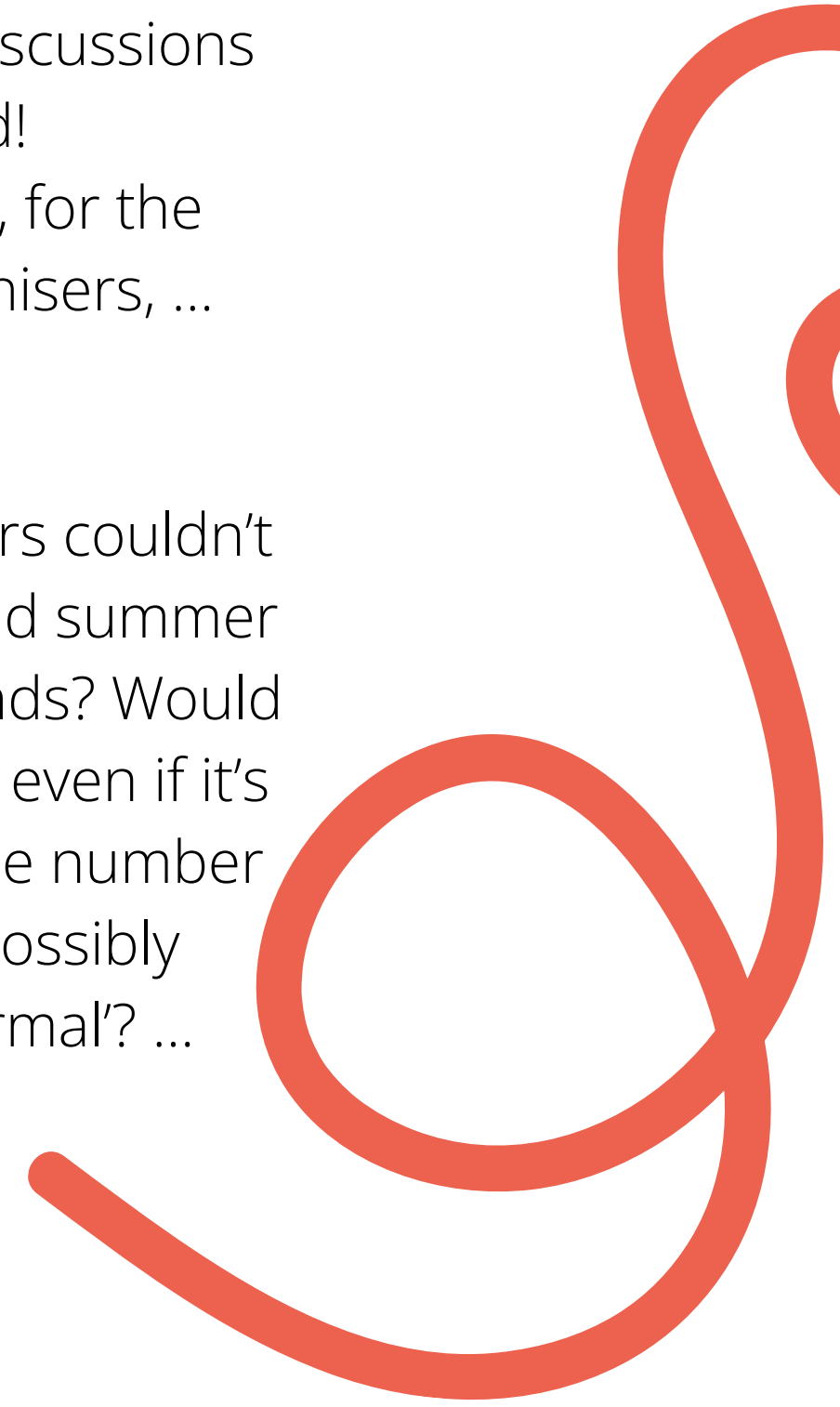
Dealing with a pandemic - Senegal 2021

And then came 2020, the prospecting trip had just been finished. Ella and Suzanne were back in Belgium, Ivo and Linda from DROP were still in Senegal, finalising some discussions with local contractors, and there was the **coronavirus**, and it hit us hard!

Almost from one day to another, so much changed. For us, the Edukado board, for the students, for our partner DROP, for the local people in Senegal, for our sympathisers, ...
briefly for everyone!

The planned fundraising events were **cancelled**, the students and board members couldn't even come together physically to have meetings, and the possibility of a trip to, and summer stay in Senegal, were suddenly very unsure. Would we be able to raise enough funds? Would we be allowed to go to Senegal? Should we go to Senegal in these circumstances, even if it's allowed? How is the population in Senegal dealing with this pandemic, how are the number of cases evolving? How is the perception of the population about foreigners, possibly bringing in the pandemic? How long is this taking? When will we go back to 'normal'? ...

So many questions, so little answers... That was reality.



Dealing with a pandemic - Senegal 2021

As time passed by, some decisions needed to be taken.

Travelling to Senegal was impossible, unless it's considered (and approved) as an essential displacement. For the summer of 2020 we decided not to travel to Senegal, also the funds raised were lower than expected, as most events had been cancelled. Nevertheless the students had shown creativity by organising alternative activities, such as a tombola, selling funny 'lockdown postcards', ...

The execution of the project was postponed to the summer of 2021. Like that the students had also one extra year to collect the missing funds. Unfortunately, for some students extending the duration of the project was not possible for different reasons. Therefore we decided to search for some **new students** to make the team somehow 'complete' again. But the virus was still very present, resulting in all this searching being completely online. Something new for us too. Nevertheless the students call was popular and we added 9 'fresh' students to the team.

Dealing with a pandemic - Senegal 2021

Nobody knew how long this pandemic would take, and before we realised it, april -the month we usually book flights, start to arrange things more in detail etc.- was approaching. Senegalese borders were still closed. The heartbreaking decision followed that it was again not responsible to send the students to Senegal. And postponing the project again was also not a good idea, as the needs for infrastructure were still growing. Meanwhile we had kept close contact with DROP, and they suggested executing the works in the summer of 2021, but proposing the students to come to Senegal in summer of 2022 to admire the new block, and do some enhancement works and finishings, if they wanted.

DROP had also been following the local situation. The **needs of the school had changed** a bit. The school had gotten the task from the government to participate in the civil registration of the pupils and their families, and in order to do so, a computer and electricity were indispensable. Installing **solar panels** would be providing sufficient energy for this task and would allow for some margin to use the computer for other educational purposes, also in the future. Furthermore, one of the school buildings with two classes could use a **'face lift'** as the roof was leaking, the windows were improvised, the plastering came off the walls etc...

These two smaller projects also had the advantage that they could be executed in the shorter holiday periods in April and May. And as the Godaguene school was already waiting a year longer than expected, these projects were executed already before the summer of 2021 began, Hurray!

Dealing with a pandemic - Senegal 2021



With the **summer** coming closer, the preparations for **two new classrooms** were made. In Senegal the rain season is in June and July, so the construction materials needed to be transported to Godaguene in May, as there are no paved roads reaching Godaguene. Everything was on time and the work could continue. Regularly we saw pictures and short videos of the bricks being fabricated, the foundations dug and 2 classes being built, wow!

In October 'better times' came, and Ivo and Linda travelled to Senegal. It was very nice to hear from them that the schools had been well built and the local inhabitants were very happy about that. The pictures were also shared with the students, which were proud of seeing the progress of the works.

And finally, in **July 2022**, some students (4) also had the opportunity to see this with their own eyes, and contribute to some **finishing works** :). They cleaned the classrooms, sanded them with help of some neighbours and painted the inside walls as well as the doors and windows.

Dealing with a pandemic - Senegal 2021



Senegal 2021 - experience

Description of tasks

As the construction works were done in 2021, when arriving in July 2022, the only thing left for us to do, were the finish works. At first, this seemed not too hard of a task, but we clearly underestimated the toll this sanding would take on our body, it was exhausting! Aside from sanding, we were also tasked with plastering over cracks and finally painting the walls, doors and windows.

We did not do it alone though, we often got some help from the people living in the village as well as from some curious kids. Together, we managed to finish the tasks and leave the school looking clean and neat.

Exchange opportunities

Aside from doing construction work, we also got the opportunity to exchange with the local population.

For example, each evening one of us helped with the cooking of the dishes. During these cooking sessions, we got the opportunity to discuss a lot with them, learning about some Senegalese traditions, learn some words and learn to cook some dishes.

On one of the weekends, the school director even invited us to his house to celebrate the Eid al-Adha.

During our weekend trips, we discovered the beautiful nature and people Senegal has to offer, enriching our experience even more.

Senegal 2021



Facts and figures

2 was the number of the Senegal project

The original project was Senegal 2020

The project took not only 2 years...

2 solar panels and 2 batteries were installed

2 class rooms got a renovation / make-over

2 new classrooms were built

Together with the block, constructed by the Senegalese government,

2 new blocks have been built on the school ground of Godaguene.

Some other numbers and facts

19 students participated (10 initially, 5 stayed and 9 new students joined in the 2nd year)

4 students went eventually to Senegal in the summer of 2022 for some finishing works, during a period of 4 weeks

The non-profit organization **DROP vzw** was our Belgian partner for this project

€ 18 271,22 was raised for the project

Financial balance

Incomes: € 28 200

Activities: € 9 860

Calendars: € 800

Cards: € 2400

Movie night: € 160

Warmest week: € 4100

Tombola: € 2400

Sponsors: € 560

Crazy copy center: € 180

Pharmacy Moons: € 250

Diverse personen € 130

Subsidies: € 6 200

Brussels city: € 5000

'4de pijler': € 1000

Kortenbergh: € 200

Donations/ Gifts: € 11 580

KBS: € 4500

Others: € 7080

Expenses: € 24 988

Promotion: € 3 450

Website, PR: €289

Bank costs: €126

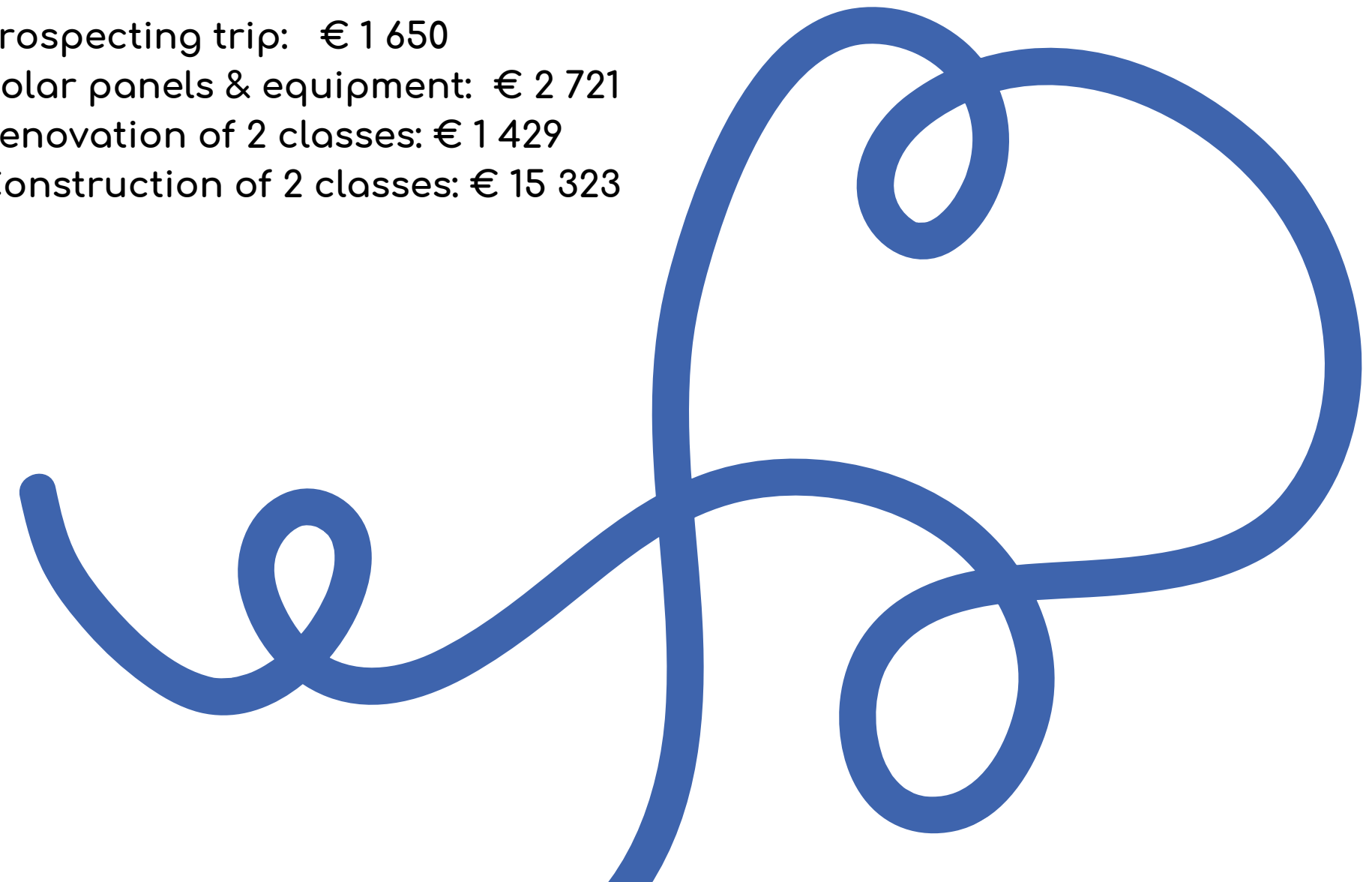
Senegal: € 21 123

Prospecting trip: € 1 650

Solar panels & equipment: € 2 721

Renovation of 2 classes: € 1 429

Construction of 2 classes: € 15 323



Thank you!



Burgerinitiatieven
voor Internationale
Solidariteit

Thank you!

At last we want to thank all our donors and sympathizers that participated in our activities. Without their support, we could have never completed this year's project.

We also want to thank the population of Godaguene for offering a helping hand during the finish works. Their participation was greatly appreciated and resulted in a nice exchange.

Another special thanks thanks to the whole Senegal 2020-2021 team

*Ine, Janne, Agna, David, Karo, Maxime, Tristan, Kirsten, Jos, Lauranne,
Emma and Pia*

And last year's board

Andy, Aushim, Camille, Robin and Hannah



Support

Edukado sees to a correct use of the funds and guarantees that 100% of the donations make their way to the South directly (e.g. raw materials, labour). All other costs (e.g. accommodation) are fully covered by fundraising activities. Donors and sponsors will be kept up to date through newsletters and annual reports.

Donations can be wired to the bank account of the Koning Boudewijnstichting (tax-deductible as of 40 euro). Please use the following details:

BAN: BE10 0000 0000 0404

BIC Code (SWIFT): BPOTBEB1

Structured reference: 128/3187/00093

You can also wire directly to Edukado's bank account (donations lower than 40 euro). Please use the following details:

IBAN: BE28 0015 1911 9020

BIC Code (SWIFT): GEBABEBB

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